

House Resolution

No. 39

Introduced by Assembly Member Hueso

August 16, 2012

House Resolution No. 39—Relative to Suicide Prevention Month.

1 WHEREAS, Suicide is the 11th leading cause of all deaths in
2 the United States and is the 10th leading cause of all deaths in
3 California; and

4 WHEREAS, Suicide is the third leading cause of death among
5 people ages 10 to 24 years in the United States; and

6 WHEREAS, More people ages 10 to 24 years die from suicide
7 than from cancer, heart disease, AIDS, birth defects, stroke, and
8 chronic lung disease combined; and

9 WHEREAS, In the United States, one person completes suicide
10 every 17 minutes; and

11 WHEREAS, Suicide can strike anyone, regardless of age,
12 gender, sexuality, or ethnicity; and

13 WHEREAS, Untreated mental illness is the cause for the vast
14 majority of suicides; and

15 WHEREAS, The stigma associated with mental illness works
16 against suicide prevention by discouraging persons at risk for
17 suicide from seeking lifesaving help and further traumatizing
18 survivors of suicide; and

19 WHEREAS, Despite these statistics, suicide has not been
20 adequately addressed and people are not well educated about
21 symptoms of suicide and the ways in which it can be prevented;
22 and

1 WHEREAS, A great many suicides are preventable and the
2 number of suicides can be reduced through awareness, education,
3 and treatment; and

4 WHEREAS, There are numerous organizations that work toward
5 providing awareness and help individuals who may suffer from
6 self-destructive behavior, such as suicide; and

7 WHEREAS, These organizations are dedicated to understanding
8 the roots and dynamics of self-destructive behavior and alleviating
9 the resulting social problems for the purposes of saving and
10 creating more meaningful lives; and

11 WHEREAS, Providing suicide prevention awareness on a
12 statewide level may help decrease the number of suicide attempts
13 and deaths in California; now, therefore, be it

14 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California*, That the
15 month of September 2012 is hereby designated as Suicide
16 Prevention Month in the State of California; and be it further

17 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
18 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.